



QUABBIN REGIONAL SCHOOL DISTRICT
School Committee Meeting

MINUTES – April 9, 2009
EDUCATIONAL SUPPORT CENTER
SCHOOL COMMITTEE MEETING – CALLED TO ORDER: 7:55 p.m.

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Edward Leonard, with the following School Committee members present:

1. Attendance:

<input type="checkbox"/> Dr. Richard Allan	<input type="checkbox"/> Robert Dupuis
<input type="checkbox"/> [open]	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Charles Miller
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Therese Salvadore	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Paula Bolger
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Mark Brophy	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Lee Wolanin
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Ned Kelly	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Dr. Thomas Tashjian
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Timothy Williams (arrived at 8:03 pm)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Peggy Thompson
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Edward F. Leonard	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Cheryl Wolfe

2. Administration:

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Sue M. Gee	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Susanne Musnicki
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Clare Barnes	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Jason Newton
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Robert Berlo	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Joan Paula
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> William Burnett	<input type="checkbox"/> Mark Pellegrino
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Cheryl Duval	<input type="checkbox"/> Debbie Pelley
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Martha Femino	<input type="checkbox"/> Marilyn Tencza
<input type="checkbox"/> Tracey Hippert	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Jan Williams (arrived at 8:05 pm)
<input type="checkbox"/> Anthony DiBenedetto	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Patricia Worthington

3. QRTA Representative – Dennis Dextrateur
Student Representative –

4. News Media:

Worcester T&G – Jim Russell	<input type="checkbox"/>
Barre Gazette –Ellie Downer	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

5. Visitors/Faculty: Ronald Alex, LPBA Architects, Inc.

Presentation regarding QRMHS roof project:

Chairman Leonard introduced Mr. Ronald Alex of LPBA Architects, Inc. Mr. Alex introduced his company as building envelope specialists, who work in both repair and replacement projects, and spoke about work that needs to be done at the Middle/High School.

Mr. Alex contacted MSBA on behalf of the district and spoke with Joe Buckley who said they would consider this project urgent because of the issue of water weight in the panels. Additionally, this project should be completed in 2 phases; first the roof and then the panels. The next step would be to hire an Owner’s Project Manager [OPM]. Mr. Alex presented a preliminary project schedule. He suggested that in the next phase, the district should mandate a certified order of materials or demand that materials be equivalent to what is expected. Additionally, a structural engineer should be involved in the next step of the analysis. Chairman Leonard thanked Mr. Alex for his presentation and overview that allowed the School Committee to discuss the process and next options. The MSBA has indicated that all steps must be followed precisely or reimbursement will not be made to the district. If projects require urgent attention, the MSBA examines those projects on a case-by-case basis. Chairman Leonard questioned Mr. Alex regarding his opinion of whether the MSBA would look at both projects (Middle/High School and Oakham Center School) at the same time. Mr. Alex responded that might be a possibility. It was suggested that one general contractor be used for both projects, that warranties be set in place, and one bond be secured. Mr. Alex suggested that the district write a “tight bid”. Ned Kelly would like to see an advertisement placed for an OPM, however this could be a potential problem with MSBA’s strict guidelines. Mr. Burnett should work to obtain clearance from the MSBA before advertising for an OPM. Charlie Miller felt that although the project is not yet funded, the district should begin the process to select an OPM. Mr. Alex noted that any project advertised in the Central Register must be fully funded first. Mr. Burnett suggested that this process is rather complex and that selecting an OPM and building a schematic design could begin as soon as the approval came from the MSBA to do so. Dr. Tashjian asked Mr. Alex if there is any recourse that he can see against the principles of the companies who manufactured and installed the products. Mr. Alex stated that the statute of limitations had now run out. Chairman Leonard thanked Bill Burnett, Support Services Manager, and Mr. Alex for an excellent presentation. Ned Kelly asked Superintendent Gee to send letters to the town Selectboards informing them that there is a problem with the Middle/High School roof and that we are in touch with the MSBA regarding the same.

Chairman Leonard then introduced Paula Bolger of Barre and welcomed her as the newest member of the school committee.

SECTION II: MINUTES

Voted: To accept and place on file the minutes of March 12, 2009.

<u>Motion</u>	<u>2nd</u>	<u>For</u>	<u>Opp.</u>	<u>Abs.</u>
LW	PT	8	0	3

SECTION III: WARRANTS/REPORTS

Payroll and accounts payable warrants # 20 and 21 were presented and signed.

SECTION IV: ADMINISTRATIVE REPORTS

1. SUPERINTENDENT OF SCHOOLS:

Superintendent Gee noted that Bob Berlo, Director of Educational Services, included in his report the two-year District Improvement Plan.

2. DIRECTOR OF ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICES: Payroll and accounts payable warrants #20 and 21 were presented and signed. Additionally, Support Services Manager, Bill Burnett made his bid recommendations (see Action Items below for additional detail).

Mr. Burnett also advised the school committee that he had recently attended an oil meeting and stated that French River will be meeting in May to decide whether to bid for part of the 2011 oil contract, since the market is very good right now. If the district can get a three year contract, it would be very advantageous to do so.

3. TEACHER ADVISORY: Dennis Dextrateur was present and gave a report regarding the Global Perspectives classes taking part in the American Cancer Society’s Relay for Life. Other events taking place were the Farm to School project, and the Tootsie roll pop drive to benefit Ghana. The Barre Police Department will be presenting a pre-prom safety event on Friday, May 1, 2009, and the music department will hold a Cabaret on May 2 and 3, 2009. Tickets are on sale for the prom, which will be held at the Manor in West Boylston. The Symphonic Winds group recently received a silver award, one of the highest ratings given, at the MICCA competition on Friday, April 3, 2009. Chairman Leonard asked Melissa Widing to send a letter of congratulations to the Symphonic Winds group.

SECTION V: SUBCOMMITTEE REPORTS

1. ADMINISTRATIVE REVIEW SUBCOMMITTEE – Mark Brophy stated that this subcommittee will meet on Wednesday, April 15, 2009 at 7:00 p.m. Mark also stated that he would like all committee members to receive email copies of the Special Education Corrective Action Plan document that was received on March 31st.
2. ALTERNATIVE FUNDING ADHOC SUBCOMMITTEE – Cheryl Wolfe has already departed from the meeting, Chairman Leonard stated that there was nothing to report.
3. AUDIT/CENTRAL OFFICE SUBCOMMITTEE—Lee Wolanin stated that he and the Superintendent had recently examined the December ice storm calendar changes. He stated that the January 26, 2009 date originally planned as a full curriculum day had instead been a ½ attendance day for students, thereby capturing one (1) school day back into the calendar. Additionally, Hubbardston Center School will need to make up one (1) additional day missed due to a water pump failure in the building. Therefore, Lee stated that the last day of school throughout the district would be June 23, except for Hubbardston Center School, which will be June 24, plus an additional curriculum day #3 for all schools. Teachers in Hubbardston will make up their additional day through three (3) 2-hour blocks of professional development. Tim Williams asked if June 24, 2009 will be a ½ day for Hubbardston students and it will be, however, it will be a full day for staff that day. With regard to Hubbardston’s June 23 schedule, Bill Burnett is still waiting to speak with the bus company to confirm if this will be a ½ day or a full day. Chairman Leonard asked that the 2008-2009 calendar, as amended, now be distributed to all.

Lee Wolanin also stated that Powers & Sullivan, Auditors, had completed their end-of-year pupil and financial reports, and indicated that there were no instances of non-compliance found. Chairman Leonard congratulated Cheryl Duval and her financial team for the nice work done.
4. BARRE BUILDING SUBCOMMITTEE – Lee Wolanin stated that there was nothing new to report at this time.
5. BUDGET SUBCOMMITTEE – Mark Brophy reported that he and the Superintendent, along with Cheryl Duval, Director of Administrative Services, and school committee members from the respective towns, had begun visiting the towns with the preliminary budget presentation. These meetings will continue until all towns have been visited. Mark then made a motion (see Action Items #2 & #3 below for more details) relative to transferring of funds. This subcommittee will next meet on Tuesday, April 28, 2009 at 7:00 p.m.
6. COLLECTIVE BARGAINING SUBCOMMITTEE – Mark Brophy stated that this subcommittee has been meeting with the QRTA and are close to finalization. This subcommittee will next meet on Wednesday, April 15, 2009 at 4:00 p.m.
7. POLICY, REVIEW AND REFORM SUBCOMMITTEE – Both Cheryl Wolfe and Dr. Allan were not present, there was nothing to report.
8. PLANTS & FACILITIES SUBCOMMITTEE – Ned Kelly stated that another meeting will be held after a meeting has taken place with the MSBA regarding the Middle/High School roof. At that later time, the subcommittee may also know more about the next steps to take with regard to the Oakham Center roof, so a further report regarding that project may be possible as well.
9. SPECIAL EDUCATION SUBCOMMITTEE – This subcommittee had nothing to report.
10. TECHNOLOGY SUBCOMMITTEE – Therese Salvadore stated that Bob Berlo has updated the subcommittee with information regarding the future technology plans. Lee Wolanin stated that he was recently at Ruggles Lane where the new computers have been installed and every computer was in use, even after the end of the school day, when he was present.

SECTION VI: UNFINISHED BUSINESS**SECTION VII: SCHOOL COMMITTEE CONCERNS**

SECTION VIII: NEW BUSINESS

Sue Musnicki, Middle School Principal, was present to request approval for the 2010 Washington, DC trip, despite the fact that the 2009 trip has not yet occurred. By booking the trip early, a place will be secured for the group. (Please see Action Item #4 below for further detail).

SECTION IX: ACTION ITEMS

	<u>Motion</u>	<u>2nd</u>	<u>For</u>	<u>Opp.</u>	<u>Abs.</u>														
1. Motion made that the School Committee accept the lowest bid in each bid category for the Food Service school year 2010 and the Rubbish Removal/Recycling Services for school years 2010-2012, as follows: Unanimous.	NK	LW	11	0	0														
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Bread award: to Duva Distributors, Inc. ▪ Milk award: to Garelick Farms, Lynn ▪ Ice Cream award: to New England Ice Cream Corporation, Inc. ▪ Frozen-Refrigerated/Canned/Dry Food Products award: to Thurston Foods, Inc. ▪ Food Service Paper award: to Niman Paper Supply, Inc. ▪ Rubbish Removal & Recycling Services (3-year bid) award: to Allied Waster, Inc. as low bidder at Ruggles Lane Elementary School, Hardwick Elementary School, Hubbardston Center School, and Oakham Center School; and Central Mass Disposal as low bidder for: Quabbin Regional Middle/High School and New Braintree Elementary School. 																			
2. Motion made to transfer \$335,000 anticipated savings in Special Education Appropriation Categories to Regular Education as follows:	MB	LW	10	1	0														
<table border="0" style="width: 100%;"> <tr> <td style="width: 60%;">Special Education Legal Services (1435)</td> <td style="text-align: right;">(40,000)</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Special Education Transportation (3300)</td> <td style="text-align: right;">(125,000)</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Special Education Tuition (9000)</td> <td style="text-align: right;">(170,000)</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Technology (2250)</td> <td style="text-align: right;">5,784</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Classroom Instructional Technology (2451)</td> <td style="text-align: right;">138,419</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Networking (4400)</td> <td style="text-align: right;">150,797</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Regular Education Transportation</td> <td style="text-align: right;">40,000</td> </tr> </table>	Special Education Legal Services (1435)	(40,000)	Special Education Transportation (3300)	(125,000)	Special Education Tuition (9000)	(170,000)	Technology (2250)	5,784	Classroom Instructional Technology (2451)	138,419	Networking (4400)	150,797	Regular Education Transportation	40,000					
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3. Motion made as a confirmation of information, the following:	MB	LW	10	0	1														
Transfer for necessary adjustments: District Administration (1410) savings for change in payroll personnel -3,379 Technology (2250) reinstate webmaster stipend 10,289 Reclass Link Crew Advisor from IS (3520) 1,583 Natures Classroom Sub Nurse Deficit (3520) 520 Project Engineer increase not budgeted (4100) 1,811 Special Education Chair Savings (2305) -10,824																			
4. Motion was made to approve the eighth grade Washington, D.C. trip for April 2010. Unanimous.	NK	PT	11	0	0														

SECTION X: EXECUTIVE SESSION

TIME: 9:36 p.m.

PURPOSE:

- To discuss the reputation, character, physical condition or mental health rather than the professional competence of an individual.
 - To consider the discipline or dismissal of, or to hear complaints or charges brought against, a public officer, employee, staff member.
 - To discuss strategy with respect to collective bargaining or litigation if an open meeting may have a detrimental effect on the bargaining process.
 - To discuss the deployment of security personnel or devices.
 - To investigate charges of criminal misconduct or to discuss the filing of criminal complaints.
 - To consider the purchase, exchange, lease or value of real property.
 - To comply with the provisions of any general or special law or federal grant-in-aid requirements.
- Mass. Gen. Laws Ch. 39, 23 (1)-(7).

MOTION: MB ; **SECOND:** LW ;

VOTE: RA ; MB ; CM ; PB ; LW ; NK ; CW
RD ; TW ; [open] ; PT ; TS ; TT ; EL

Return to Open Session – Time: 9:45 p.m.

MOTION: MB **SECOND:** LW **VOTE:** 9 **FOR:** 9 **OPPOSED:** 0

Meeting adjourned: 9:45 p.m.

MOTION: MB **SECOND:** LW **VOTE:** 9 **FOR:** 9 **OPPOSED:** 0

Respectfully submitted,
Melissa A. Widing, Executive Assistant